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FAMILY

FOR

SELECTED FROM

REV. CHARL

RECTOR OF

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"As for me and m  
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"This ought to be the sincere r  
of a family. Without this, none  
servants; nor justly hope to have  
BISHOP WILSON.  
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PRINTED AND PUBLISHED

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A SERIES

OF

FAMILY PRAYERS,
FOR ONE WEEK,

SELECTED FROM VARIOUS APPROVED MANUALS,

BY THE

REV. CHARLES BANCROFT, M.A.

RECTOR OF ST. JOHNS, CANADA EAST.

SECOND EDITION, REVISED.

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"As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

Joshua xxiv. 15.  
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"This ought to be the sincere resolution, and constant practice of every Christian head of a family. Without this, none can reasonably expect to have dutiful children, or faithful servants; nor justly hope to have God's blessing in this world, or in the world to come."—  
BISHOP WILSON.

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Montreal:

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY JOHN LOVELL, ST. NICHOLAS STREET.

1852.

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## FAMILY PRAYERS.

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### SUNDAY MORNING.

GRACIOUS Lord of light and life ! we desire to remember that thou hast commanded us to keep holy the Sabbath day, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law. We confess that we have often disobeyed it; O forgive us for our Saviour's sake. Let our souls bless and thank thee, that we see the morning light of another of thine own holy days. Grant us grace to resist every temptation to spend any part of it in a vain or useless manner. Grant us grace to consider the use we should make of the time, which thou, our Creator, hast commanded us to keep holy. When we read thy word may we meditate on thy precepts, so that we may be enabled to say, "Thy word have I hid in my heart, that I might not sin against thee." May all the instructions we receive concerning thy word,

be as seed sown in good ground, that shall spring up and bear fruit an hundred-fold. When we are in thy house of prayer, may we feel that we are there to worship, and not to behave in a trifling manner; not to perform a cold and heartless service, but to confess our sins, with sorrow for them; to pray for thy pardoning mercy, and devoutly to praise thee for thy blessed gift of Jesus Christ, thy beloved Son. O thou God of all grace, as thou hast given us a Saviour, grant that we may truly believe in him, fervently love him, constantly obey him while we live, and when we die, enter life eternal, to be for ever with the Lord, and unite with all redeemed souls in giving thanks "unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood." Grant, merciful God, that the preaching of the glorious gospel of salvation through Jesus Christ, may this day be mixed with faith in the souls of all who hear it. Bless all faithful preachers of it [especially thy servant who ministereth to us,] strengthen them in body and mind, and let them feel that Jesus is fulfilling to them his promise, "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." We now commit ourselves to thy mercy. Make thy day, we beseech thee, a blessing to our souls.

Make it a blessing to all the world by granting that all Christians may have a spirit of prayer and supplication to plead for those who do not know, or do not believe in the Saviour of sinners. Look down, O Heavenly Father, with tender mercy on all those who by sickness or any other adversity, may be kept from thy house of prayer. Help them to worship thee, and cause them to rejoice that thou art every where present to hear and answer their supplications. Grant these, and all our requests, for thy mercy's sake in Christ Jesus, our only Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, For ever and ever. *Amen.*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all, this day [night] and for evermore. *Amen.*

## SUNDAY EVENING.

O LORD God of hosts, the God of Israel that dwellest between the cherubim, thou art God, even thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth; and beside thee there is none other. Thou art our God, and we will praise thee; thou art our God, and we will exalt thee.

We praise thee for every opportunity which has been afforded us of becoming wise unto salvation.

We bless thee for casting our lot in a land where the darkness is past, and the true light now shineth.

We glorify thy name for nourishing us, and bringing us up in a church which is built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone.

We heartily thank thee, O heavenly Father, for giving us thy blessed word, to direct us in the way of life. Let it not be unto us a sealed book, and a dead letter; but open our understanding to understand the Scriptures that we may believe and obey them to the saving of the soul.

Above all, we praise thee for the gift of thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. And we entreat thee, Almighty God, to grant us perfect-



ly to know him to be the way, the truth, and the life ; that under the guidance of thy Holy Spirit, we may steadfastly walk in the path that leadeth unto life eternal.

But while we praise thee most gracious Father, for these and all thy other mercies, we acknowledge and confess our own unworthiness, and manifold abuse of them. We humble ourselves before thee, beseeching thee, of thy great goodness, not only to accept our praise, but to forgive us all our sins, negligences, and ignorances. Pardon the iniquity of our most holy things ; and wash us in the precious blood of our Lord and Saviour.

Hear us, O Lord, for his sake ; and grant that, however we have fallen short of our duty this day, we may not have attended thy ordinances altogether in vain. Though we are unprofitable servants, do not forsake us. Though we are dull of hearing, and slow of heart to believe, yet mercifully bear with our infirmities, and cast us not away from thy presence. Grant that every Sabbath may be the means of bringing us nearer to thyself, and of making us more meet for the enjoyment of thy glorious kingdom.

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord, in our prayers and supplications for all men.

Prosper the labours of thy faithful servants



who have this day published the glad tidings of salvation. Give thy blessing to the seed which they have sown, that it may bring forth fruit abundantly.

Let grace and peace be multiplied to all who love the Lord Jesus in sincerity. O Lord save thy people and bless thine inheritance.

Hear the prayers which have been offered up for all estates of men in thy holy Church; and answer them in the multitude of thy tender mercies.

Be pleased to continue thy protection to us through this night. Refresh our bodies with quiet sleep, and our souls with the consolations of thy Holy Spirit: and when thou shalt call us out of this world, give us everlasting rest and peace in thy eternal kingdom, through the merits of our Redeemer Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

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## MONDAY MORNING.

WE fall down before thee, O merciful Father, to offer up our united prayers and praises at the footstool of thy divine Majesty. We thank thee that thou hast preserved us during the night past in peace and safety, and raised us up again to see the light of another morning.

And now that we are again returned to the ordinary duties of life, after a day spent in thy more immediate worship and service, enable us, we beseech thee, to go forth with an earnest desire of carrying into execution any holy purposes which we may have formed, and of living more under the influence of thy heavenly grace. May we set out as with the vows of the Lord upon us, and as with a fresh impulse of soul, disposing us more to do the will of God from the heart. May our chief thoughts, our main desires, be about heavenly things, and may we be comparatively little interested about the concerns of this world. May we serve thee with a deep sense of our own weakness, and look up to thee for continual supplies of grace and strength out of the fulness which is in Christ Jesus; that so we may be enabled to put off entirely the old man, which is corrupt according to the

deceitful lusts, and may be renewed in the spirit of our minds.

Oh, may we experience this blessed transformation, and meanwhile may we endeavour to adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things. May we remember that we shall have to give account to thee hereafter for the talents committed to our stewardship; that we may render up our account at last with joy, and meet our blessed Saviour with confidence, and not be ashamed at his coming.

And now, Lord, let us once more lift up our voices in praise and thanksgiving for all the renewed mercies which we experience at thy hand. We thank thee that thou hast placed us in a land, in which we enjoy so great a measure of personal comfort, and are, at the same time favoured with so great advantages for our everlasting happiness. Oh, let us remember the obligations which rest upon us, and be filled with more continual gratitude to thee, our great and unwearied Benefactor. May the experience of thy goodness as to the things of time, make us call upon thee more earnestly for the blessings of eternity.

And now we beseech thee take us, and all whom we should remember in our prayers, into thy gracious keeping for the ensuing day. Guard us against our great spiritual enemy;

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succour us in every season of temptation ; and enable us to live in thy faith, and fear, and love, under a constant recollection of thy presence, and with a continual desire of thy favour. We ask all in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ our great Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon us, and give us peace this day and for evermore. *Amen.*

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## MONDAY EVENING.

O LORD GOD, infinitely great, glorious, and holy, we adore thy goodness for the blessings of the day which we are now concluding, for all our temporal comforts, and still more for all thy spiritual favours. May we lie down this night with a deep feeling of our obligation to the long-suffering and loving kindness of our God and Saviour.

Pardon the sins, negligences and ignorances of the day that is past ; at the close of our best days there is much for which we have reason to be humbled in thy presence. O Lord, enter not into judgment with us, for

in thy sight shall no man living be justified. Take away from us, we beseech thee, every remainder of the heart of stone, and give us hearts of flesh. Enable us to feel our ruined condition without a Saviour, and to fly for refuge to the hope set before us, and may we press forward to the prize of our high calling, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith.

Grant, Lord, we beseech thee, that we may live under a constant recollection of our true condition in this life, that we may remember we are here for a short and uncertain season, and that death and eternity are at hand. May we live therefore with our loins girded and our lamps burning, as those who wait for the coming of their Lord. May we be diligent in our Master's business employing the various faculties which thou hast given us to thy honour, and striving more and more to let our light so shine before men, that they may glorify our Father which is in heaven. Grant, Lord, we beseech thee, that we may also be more useful in our day and generation. May we be endeavouring to lessen the vice and misery which are in the world. And may we strive to serve thee, not merely from considerations of interest, or from motives of slavish fear, but from a

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grateful sense of the obligations which we owe thee, and from a desire to do thy heavenly will out of a deep sense of the mercies which thou art continually pouring upon us.

We pray to thee also for our fellow-creatures, more especially for our friends and benefactors, and grant to all whom we should remember in our prayers the same blessings which we ask for ourselves. Bless in particular all who are endeavouring to make known the glad tidings of a Redeemer to those who now sit in darkness and in the shadow of death. Pity those who are groaning under the yoke of oppression, those who are enduring the ravages of war. Oh, may there be an end to all their evils, may peace and love prevail through the earth.

And now, O heavenly Father, we commit ourselves to thy holy keeping this night, and desire to rest securely under the shadow of thy protection. Defend us from all perils and dangers, and especially from those which may assault and hurt the soul. Prepare us by comfortable repose, for the duties of the morrow, and grant that we may rise disposed and strengthened for thy service as faithful and diligent disciples of thy blessed Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

## TUESDAY MORNING.

O LORD, our heavenly Father, Almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day, what shall we render unto thee for all thy benefits conferred upon us! Adored be thy mercy for all the blessings we are continually receiving from thee. How hast thou renewed our lives and our mercies to us this morning! May all that is within us bless thy holy Name. O put thy Spirit within us, and cause us to walk in thy statutes. Give us grace to glorify thee in our bodies and in our spirits, which are thine.

We praise thee O God, for the unspeakable gift of thy dear Son, Jesus Christ our Saviour. Grant us so to believe in him, that we may have life through his Name.

We praise thee for the gift of the Holy Ghost. May our bodies be the temple of his continual abode. Let us not walk according to the course of this world, according to the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience; but, as the children of God, may we be led by the Spirit of God, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Let us not resist or grieve the Holy Spirit, but in all things obey his godly motions, to thy glory, and to



our comfort and salvation. May our understandings be enlightened, our hearts sanctified, and our wills subdued, according to the working of his mighty power.

Be with us this day, to bless and uphold our souls. Grant us the joy of faith, the patience of hope, and the comfort of love; that we may rejoice in thy mercy, and give praise to thy Name. Save and deliver us from all the evils which we feel or fear, or cause them to work together for our good. Compass us about with thy favour as with a shield. Let thy loving-kindness and thy truth always preserve us.

Make us diligent, we pray thee, in the discharge of our temporal and spiritual duties. Incline us so to seek thy kingdom and righteousness, that all other things may be added unto us. Make us watchful and circumspect, ever remembering that thou, O God, seest us. In silent prayer and praise may we lift up our hearts to thee, and have frequent communion with thee. Give us grace to set an infinite value upon our souls. In the midst of life, may we think on death, judgment, and eternity; and give all diligence to be found of Christ in peace, without spot and blameless.

"O Almighty Lord and everlasting God, vouchsafe, we beseech thee, to direct, sanc-

tify and govern, both our hearts and bodies in the ways of thy laws, and in the works of thy commandments: that through thy most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul: through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

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### TUESDAY EVENING.

O ETERNAL God, Creator and Preserver of a<sup>n</sup> mankind, Giver of all spiritual grace, the Author of everlasting life, we bow down before thee this evening; and we beseech thee to accept and bless us, for the alone sake of thy dear Son Jesus Christ our Saviour. Help us to draw near to thee, and grant us to enjoy communion with thee.

We praise thee for all thy mercies; and we beseech thee to forgive us all our sins, which are more than we can number, and greater than we can express; for in many things we offend, and that continually. Grant us daily repentance toward thee, O God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. Remem-

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ber, O Lord, thy tender mercies and thy loving-kindnesses, for they have been ever of old. Remember not the sins of our youth, nor our transgressions; but according to thy mercy remember thou us, for thy goodness' sake, O Lord. Heal all our backsliding, receive us graciously, and love us freely.

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Give us grace to renounce the world; make us willing to crucify the flesh; and strengthen us to resist the devil. Help us to deny ourselves, to take up our cross, and to follow Christ. Preserve us from every thing that would dishonour his holy Name. May we depart from all iniquity, and avoid every temptation to sin. Give us to see the evil of sin in the death of Christ, and fill us with holy zeal and indignation against it. Create in us clean hearts, O God, and renew right spirits within us. Make us more humble, more thankful, more holy.

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We beseech thee, O Lord, to bless our Queen, and to endue her counsellors with wisdom. We pray thee also to be gracious and favourable to our country, and to fill it with that righteousness which exalteth a nation.

Bless the ministers of thy glorious Gospel, and enable them rightly to divide the word of truth. Give them grace to warn the unruly,

to comfort the feeble-minded, to support the weak, and to be patient toward all men.

Bless, Lord, all our dear relations and friends. Extend to them, we beseech thee, thy grace and mercy. Give them, for Christ's sake, every blessing needful to their salvation.

Have mercy upon all men. Comfort the sick. Succour the tempted. Relieve the oppressed. Be the Father of the fatherless, and the God of the widow. Give joy to those who mourn for sin. Bind up the broken-hearted, and save such as be of a contrite spirit; giving them everlasting consolation and good hope, through thy grace and mercy in Christ Jesus.

Into thy hands we now commend ourselves, our souls and bodies. Enable us, O Lord, to bless and praise thee for all that we have received from thee; and while we rely upon thy mercy, may we ever seek thy honour and glory; through our only Mediator and Advocate, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

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## WEDNESDAY MORNING.

ALMIGHTY God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, who hast said that thou wilt be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be thy people ; dispose our hearts, by the gracious influence of thy Holy Spirit, to worship thee through one Mediator, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Accept, through thy Son Jesus Christ, our unfeigned thanksgivings for the mercies of another day. Thou gavest us our being, and thou preservest us from day to day. Through the defenceless hours of the night thou hast kept us in safety. Thou hast given us souls capable of knowing and rejoicing in thee, and bodies by which we may serve thee.

But, O Lord, we thank thee above all for thy spiritual blessings. We bless thee that we were not born in heathen lands, but in this favoured country, where the light of thy truth clearly shines. We thank thee for the comfort of the Holy Scriptures, for the labours of faithful ministers, and for all the means of grace. O how great has been thy love to us ! Thou sparedst not thine own Son, but deliveredst him up for us all, and with him thou hast freely given us all things.

What shall we render unto the Lord for all his benefits? We desire now afresh to devote ourselves to thy service. We give up ourselves, our whole selves, unto thee. God of peace, sanctify us wholly. God of our life, grant that our whole spirit, and soul, and body, may be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

But with shame and confusion of face, we would confess that we have been rebellious and disobedient. We have abused all thy gifts, and made them occasions of sin. Lord, we acknowledge our impenitence, we confess our unbelief, we bewail our self-righteousness.

Forgive us all our offences, remember not against us our transgressions, but call to mind thy great and tender mercies which have been ever of old.

Grant unto every one of us a saving interest in the death of Christ, full and free forgiveness of all our sins, and grace and strength to go and sin no more. Lord, help us to love thee, teach us to serve thee. Give us thy strength that we may overcome our corrupt nature. Grant that this day we may have power from on high to resist every temptation, to confess Christ before men, to labour steadfastly with a single eye to thy glory, to live in the spirit of prayer, in faith, humility, self denial, and love,

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and to walk before thee in that narrow way which leads to eternal life. Fill us with love to others. Teach us to do good to all men, and to seek according to our means to visit and relieve the fatherless and the widows in their affliction : and do thou keep us unspotted from the world.

And hear us also we beseech thee in behalf of our relations and friends, our neighbourhood, our Minister, and all for whom we ought to pray. Strengthen the weak. Comfort those that are cast down. Heal the sick. Relieve the distressed. Be merciful unto thy Church. O bless us, and cause thy face to shine upon us, that thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations.

Gracious Lord, not for our worthiness; but for the only name's sake of Jesus Christ, hear these our prayers, which we sum up in his own words.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

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### WEDNESDAY EVENING.

O LORD of Hosts, the God of Israel, thou art God, even thou alone ; thou hast made



heaven and earth. Incline thine ear, we beseech thee, and hear: open thine eyes, O Lord, and see; and graciously grant, that though in ourselves we are unworthy of thy regard, in Jesus Christ we may be accepted, and answered, and blessed.

For his sake, we humbly entreat thee, mercifully to forgive us all the sins we have this day committed. Make us sorry for our shortcomings and provocations. Teach us to profit by the additional experience which every day affords of the deceitfulness of our own hearts, and of the temptations to which we are exposed; and help us in time to come to be more on our guard against the sins that do so easily beset us, and to exercise a firmer dependance on Him through whom alone thy people have their strength renewed, and are made more than conquerors over all their spiritual enemies.

We give thee thanks, gracious God, for the renewed tokens we have this day experienced of thy providential care and goodness. We thank thee that we have received our daily bread—that we have been preserved from danger—that we have been permitted to taste the pleasures of social and friendly intercourse,—and that now, in circumstances of so much external comfort we are called to enjoy the

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infinitely higher privilege of fellowship with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ. Enlarge our minds, O Lord, with sentiments and feelings corresponding to the benefits we have received. Help us to feel, to speak, and to act, as the children of so many mercies. May the goodness of God, our heavenly Father, influence our whole conduct; and in every thing may we give thanks.

Nor, in the enjoyment of temporal mercies, let us be tempted to forget those which are spiritual and eternal. We acknowledge, and we lament, our proneness to accept of things which perish in the using, as if they were meant to form our portion. But let thy Spirit raise our minds above the inferior and unworthy objects of mere temporal gratification, and fix them upon the glorious and the unchanging realities at thy right hand.

Be with us, we beseech thee, through this night. If it please thee, grant us sleep to refresh our bodies and our minds. If awake, may we remember thee upon our beds, and meditate upon thee in the night-watches: may our souls follow hard after thee; and let thy right hand uphold us.

Be bountiful to all our friends. Enrich them with thy grace. Comfort them under all their trials: and accommodate the supplies of thy

Holy Spirit to their various characters, circumstances, ages, and necessities.

Look favourably upon thy Church and people. Do good, in thy good pleasure, unto Zion: build thou the walls of Jerusalem: restore thine ancient people to their former place in thy favour; and with them let the fulness of the Gentiles be brought in.

Hear our prayers, O Lord, we beseech thee: and when thou hearest, do thou accept and answer, and bless us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only Advocate and Mediator, to whom, with the Father and the Holy Spirit be glory everlasting. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

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### THURSDAY MORNING.

O ETERNAL God, Creator and Preserver of all mankind, Giver of all spiritual grace, the Author of everlasting life; we thine unworthy Servants desire to praise thy Name, for all the expressions of thy bounty towards us. We give thee thanks, that thou hast preserved us from many and great dangers, wherewith we have been encompassed; that thou hast brought us safe to the light of this

day; that thou hast refreshed us the past night, with quiet rest and sleep. But above all, we bless thee for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

Pardon, good Lord, we beseech thee, all our former sins, and all our abuses of thy forbearance and long-suffering, for which we are now sorry at our hearts. Give us grace to lead more holy lives, and to be more careful in improving all future opportunities. Make thyself present to our minds, and let thy love and thy fear rule in our souls, in all those places and companies where our occasions shall lead us this day.

Keep us chaste in all our thoughts; temperate in all our enjoyments; humble in all our opinions of ourselves; charitable in all our speeches of others; meek and peaceable under all provocations; sincere and faithful in all our professions; and so just and upright in all our dealings, that no necessity may force, nor opportunity in any kind allure us to defraud, or overreach our neighbour. When thou bestowest good on others, let us not envy, but rejoice in it; and when thou addest any to ourselves, let us own thy mercy, and humbly thank thee for it.

Afford us convenient supplies in all our reasonable necessities, and protect us against the approach of all dangers ; make us diligent in our affairs, and give such success to our lawful endeavours, as thou seest best and most expedient for us ; teach us contentedly to submit, and not to repine at any thing that happens by the allotment of thy wise Providence.

In all our passage through this world, and our manifold concerns in it, suffer not our hearts to be too much set upon it ; but always fix our minds upon the blessed hope of everlasting life, that as we go along, we may make all the things of this world minister to it, and be careful, above all things, that our souls be fitted for that pure and perfect bliss, which thou hast prepared for all who love and fear thee, in the glories of thy kingdom.

Direct us in all our actions, guard us against all dangers, relieve us in all straits, and grant that we may always make thee our confidence, and take all things well that thou orderest for us. Shorten our sorrows, and deliver us from all our sins, for Jesus Christ's sake ; in the full extent of whose words, we pray to be heard both for ourselves, and for all mankind.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

## THURSDAY EVENING.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who seest all our thoughts, and words, and works, and who wilt judge us at the last day; we beseech thee to pardon whatsoever sins we have this day committed against thy divine majesty; and to give us grace to examine ourselves, that we may know wherein we have offended against thee.

We fear that we have this day done many things which we ought not to have done; and have left undone many things which we ought to have done: that we may have indulged our pride, and our evil tempers; and harboured many sinful thoughts: that we may have been negligent in the performance of the duties of our station; and may have omitted opportunities of doing good. We profess to be thy servants; but how great a part of our duty do we often leave unperformed! O pardon our offences for Jesus Christ's sake; and teach us continually to amend our lives, that we may become his disciples, not in name only, but in deed and in truth.

We pray thee to take us under thy gracious care this night: we are surrounded by dangers, and are at all times unable to help

ourselves ; but the darkness and the light are both alike to thee ; and thou art ever present with those who put their trust in thee. How many are there who will pass this night in sorrow and in pain ! How many who will mourn through the disquietude of their hearts ; and are without any sure hope in their God ! O Lord grant unto us, if it please thee, refreshing rest ; but especially, teach us to put our trust in thee.

May we know in whom we have believed ; and may our souls be safe in the hands of that Redeemer to whom we have committed them ; and in whose merits alone we desire to trust.

We most humbly address thee in behalf of all those for whom it is our duty to pray. We would intercede with thee for our native land, that it may still be favoured with the light of thy Gospel ; and that the seeds of divine knowledge sown in it may bring forth abundant fruit. Bless the Queen and all in authority over us ; and give them wisdom to to fulfil the arduous duties to which they are called. Have mercy on all who are in any sorrow ; on the widows, and the fatherless, and on those who have none to help them. Look down with compassion on those who suffer from the calamities of war. Be merci-

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ful to our dear friends and relations. Let the light of thy gospel shine into all their hearts. Grant that they may be now united with us in the bonds of Christian love; and that we may all be members of thy blessed family in heaven.

O Lord, pardon the infirmity of these our prayers; and answer us, not according to what we either desire or deserve, but according to the riches of thy grace in Jesus Christ; for whom we bless thee, and to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

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## FRIDAY MORNING.

O THOU ever-blessed and glorious Jehovah, we are unworthy to come into thy presence; we are unworthy to call upon thy Name; we deserve nothing but thy wrath. But with thee, O Lord, there is mercy, and with thee is plenteous redemption. Save, Lord, or we perish. O cast us not away from thy presence. Incline thine ear, and hear us. Grant

unto us pardon and peace, that we may serve thee with a quiet mind.

Teach us thy ways, O Lord, and enable us to walk in thy truth. Give us grace to delight in thy law, which is holy, just, and good. May we be followers of thee, O God, as dear children; and walk in love, as Christ also loved us, and gave himself for us. Prepare us for the duties and trials we may be called to, for we know not what a day may bring forth. Let thy wisdom guide us, and thy power uphold and strengthen us.

Give us not up to the sinful desires of our hearts, neither leave us to follow our vain imaginations. Suffer not the enemies of our peace and salvation to prevail against us. But grant that we, walking in thy fear, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, may enjoy that peace which passeth understanding, and which the world can neither give nor take away.

Living in a world of sin and sorrow, we bless thee, O Lord, for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear. Give us grace to follow them, who through faith and patience now inherit the promises. Help us so to fight the good fight of faith that we may lay hold of eternal life.

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dear relations and friends. May they all partake of thy grace here, and of everlasting glory hereafter.

Be merciful to thy church and people, and grant that, however dispersed or distressed, they may all be united and comforted together in Christ. Supply the wants of all who believe in his Name, and are devoted to his service. In all time of their tribulation, good Lord, deliver them.

Bless the Ministers of the Gospel—all who preach Jesus Christ as the way, the truth, and the life. Add to their number, and increase their faithfulness and zeal. May they speak the truth in love; and give themselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.

Bless, gracious God, our country, our Queen, and all whom thy providence hath set over us; and may this be our holy determination: We will serve the Lord, and obey every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake.

Accept our praises, O Lord, for every blessing we enjoy. May thy mercies draw our hearts toward thee in gratitude, and unite them to thee in love. Finally, we beseech thee to bless us when we lie down and when we rise up, and to bless us in our going out

and coming in, from this time forth for evermore: through Jesus Christ our Saviour; in whose holy name and words we further pray, saying,

Our Father, &c.

The Lord bless us and keep us; the Lord make his face to shine upon us, and be gracious unto us; the Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon us, and give us peace, both now and for evermore. *Amen.*

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### FRIDAY EVENING.

O LORD God, our heavenly Father, we are met together as a Christian family, to thank thee for the mercies of the past day, and to implore thy blessing before we lie down to rest. We would ever remember the frailty of our nature; and our utter uncertainty how long we may have to live; that we must soon go to the Father of our spirits, and give account of all things done in the body, and must then receive our eternal doom.

O may this awful thought return to our minds with each returning day; that we may enter upon our duties, reflecting on the ends for which we were born; and may lie down each night, examining whether we are so

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passing our time on earth, as we shall wish we had done—when we are about to die, and to appear before thy tribunal.

We pray thee, O Lord, to give us a sacred jealousy over ourselves; lest we fall short of our heavenly calling. May we learn to put our whole trust in thee, and to place our delight in serving thee. Pardon all our disobedience in the time past; pardon our many negligences, as well as sins; pardon the wasted time, the idle words, and the evil tempers of this day.

We would lie down, trusting in the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord; in whose gracious promises to every repenting sinner we place all our hope. And while we thus commend our souls to thy mercies in Christ, to thee do we commit all our worldly affairs. In thine hand, O Lord, whose providence it is that bringeth every thing to pass, we leave the issue of all our undertakings; for thou knowest, better than ourselves, what is for our good.

We beseech thee to bless us with all spiritual blessings; and to sanctify to us the daily events of our lives. We pray thee to lay upon us no greater burden than we are able to bear; and to train us by thy merciful goodness and thy tender care for the performance

of better service than we have yet rendered thee in the world. We pray for strength against every temptation ; and for final victory over every sin. Arm us for every conflict ; fit us for every duty which we have to fulfil. Let us diligently perform our work in life ; let us at the same time live in peace and love, and abound in all offices of kindness to each other.

O Lord, unite us as one Christian family together. May we be partakers of the same faith ; and heirs of the same hope. May our united prayers continually ascend to the throne of thy heavenly grace ; and may thy blessing rest upon us.

Hear us, we beseech thee, in these our humble supplications, for Jesus Christ our Saviour's sake. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

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### SATURDAY MORNING.

O LORD God Almighty, the sovereign of Heaven and earth, against whom all our sins have been committed, and by whom alone they can be pardoned, we acknowledge, and desire to feel more and more, that there is none but

thee by whom our souls can be sanctified and our wants supplied. We adore thee that thou art able and also ready to hear and help, to bless and save thy people that call upon thee; that thou delightest to show mercy, and lovest the occasions of glorifying thy compassion. We come to thee therefore, O Lord, seeking that mercy which thou knowest we so greatly require, and grace to help in all our times of need, and we beg the same for the sake of thy beloved Son, who alone is worthy, and in whose precious blood is all our trust.

We are defiled with sin, O Lord, and thou mayest well abhor our guilty souls—but O look upon us in the Son of thy love, and prepare us for the mercies which thou hast treasured up for those who believe in him. Make us to feel the burden and the bitterness of our sins, nor let us ever wish to hide them from ourselves, seeing that all things are naked and open to thee, with whom we have to do. Holy Father, carry on with power thy great work—even the work of faith and the sanctification of our souls. Quicken us, and stir us up to thy service, and assist us in the performance of all our duties, which of ourselves thou knowest we can never perform. Work in us to will and to do of thy good pleasure; establish the things which thou hast already



wrought for us and continue to bless us more and more with thy grace till our souls are fitted for the enjoyment of thy glory.

Gracious Lord, thy mercies are fresh and new to us every morning. We have laid us down and awakened again, for thou hast sustained us; thou hast kept us from the terrors of the night and from all harm and violence, so that we are once more risen in peace and safety. Glory be to thee, O God of our salvation, who art still so mindful of us—ever so merciful unto us. Continue to bless us this day, and teach us how to demean ourselves aright and to order our affairs to thy glory. O direct our undertakings. Prosper our endeavours. Rule our hearts in thy fear, and keep us living to thy praise. Behold, we commit ourselves to thee, and all for whom we would pray, and shelter ourselves under the shadow of thy wing. Keep us from evil, help us to do that which is good and pleasing to thee through our blessed Redeemer. Give us, gracious Lord, all that we have asked for as we should—Forgive us all that we have ever asked amiss, and hear and answer our petitions in the name and for the merits of thy beloved Son. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

## SATURDAY EVENING.

O LORD God Almighty, Father of mercies, from whom we derive the temporal comforts which we enjoy, and to whom we owe the blessed and glorious hope of everlasting life, we desire to render unto thee this our evening sacrifice of prayer, and praise, and thanksgiving. We acknowledge thy goodness to us since the morning, and through another week, and praise thee that day by day thou dost crown our lives with mercy and loving kindness.

We pray thee to increase our trust and confidence in thee. Deliver us from the love of this changeful and uncertain world. Strengthen our faith in the great promises of thy gospel; and grant that, having committed ourselves to thy mercies in Jesus Christ, we may find in him continued rest and peace.

We beseech thee, for his sake, to pardon whatever sins we have this day committed against thee. Although we profess to know thy word, and to live in obedience to thy will, in how many things do we continue to offend!

We are often slothful in the performance of our duties; we fail to watch against our peculiar temptations; we yield to the evil example of those around us; we gratify our pride;

we indulge our evil tempers ; we renew our sins, to the great disquiet of our souls. O Lord, forgive, for Jesus Christ's sake the offences of this day ; and pour out upon us thy Holy Spirit ; that we may become more steadfast and zealous in thy service, and more diligent in every good work.

We commit to thy gracious and fatherly care all those for whom it is our duty to pray. Have compassion on our dearest relatives and friends. Supply their various wants through the riches of thy mercy in Jesus Christ.

Strengthen the hands of our Sovereign the Queen, and all that are put in authority under her ; that they may rightly discharge their arduous duties.

Bless thy ministering servants, whom thou hast appointed to show unto men the way of salvation ; [especially thy servant who ministereth unto us]. Be ever with them in the performance of all the duties of their ministry ; in prayer, to quicken their devotion ; in praises to heighten their love and gratitude ; and in preaching, to give a readiness of thought and expression suitable to the clearness and excellency of thy holy word.

Be merciful to all who are in sorrow. Look down with pity on those who suffer through the calamities of war ; on prisoners and

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captives; and all who are destitute and oppressed.

Have mercy on the young: may there be never wanting in this land seed to serve thee; and may those who shall come after us, obtain from thee an increase of light and knowledge, as well as of faith, and hope and love; that the fruits of righteousness may abound; and the excellency of thy gospel may be more and more manifested in the world.

We now commit ourselves to thee for this night; earnestly beseeching thee to bless us, and to take us under thy gracious protection. With the week that is about to close we would dismiss all our worldly cares and thoughts. May we rise in the morning with every good desire growing up in us; and go to the duties of the following day, remembering that we are candidates for a heavenly prize; and looking beyond these temporal things, to a better and more enduring inheritance.

Assist us in all our attempts to serve thee, and let thy word, thine ordinances, and thy Sabbath, be sanctified to us, and to all who with us shall call upon the Father through Jesus Christ.

We present unto thee these our imperfect

supplications, in the name of Jesus Christ,  
our Lord. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.



## OCCASIONAL PRAYERS,

WHICH MAY BE USED WITH ANY OF THE  
FOREGOING.



*When any Member of the Family is Sick.*

HEAR us, Almighty and most merciful God and Saviour: extend thy accustomed goodness to thy servant who is grieved with sickness. Sanctify, we beseech thee, thy fatherly correction to *him*; that the sense of *his* weakness may add strength to *his* faith, and seriousness to *his* repentance: That, if it shall be thy good pleasure to restore *him* to *his* former health, *he* may lead the residue of *his* life in thy fear, and to thy glory: or else, give *him* grace so to take thy visitation, that after this

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painful life ended, *he* may dwell with thee in life everlasting, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

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*When any Member of the Family is going a Journey.*

WE especially entreat thee in behalf of *him*, who in addition to the ordinary dangers of life, is about to be exposed to those more immediately incident to travelling. Grant *him*, we beseech thee, every journeying mercy. Be thou, O Lord, *his* helper, and *his* defence on every side. Let no harm befall *him* by night or by day. Keep *him* from evil. Preserve *his* going out and coming in ; and be with *him* amidst all the vicissitudes of this earthly pilgrimage till thou hast brought *him* to thy holy temple, to be a pillar in the house of his God, and to go no more out.

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*For those under affliction.*

“LOOK upon all who are afflicted and distressed, whether in mind, body, or estate. Heal thou their infirmities, remove their

trials, and in the mean time sanctify to them all thy dispensations. May every pain, and every trial, lead them, and lead us all, to prepare more earnestly for that blessed state, when there shall be no more death, and where sorrow and sighing shall for ever flee away." *Amen.*

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*Prayer before receiving the Lord's Supper.*

GRACIOUS Lord, I am now invited to thy table. May I go to it with a broken and a contrite heart. O blessed Jesus, may I look upon thee, whom my sins have pierced, and mourn. Grant to me pardon and peace, through the atonement of thy precious blood. Cleanse me from my sins, and clothe me with thy righteousness. And while I feel my guilt as a sinner, grant me, O thou crucified Saviour, to rejoice in thy mercy. Increase my faith in thee, and fill my soul with love to thee.

Let the bread, which I hope to receive, remind me of thy body, which was broken for our sins and bruised for our iniquities; and may I feed on thee in my heart by faith, with thanksgiving. May the wine bring to my remembrance thy precious blood, which cleans-

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eth from all sin, and which was shed to make reconciliation for iniquity. May I receive it with thankfulness, and be filled with all joy and peace in believing, and abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost. May I do all in remembrance of thee, O Lord Jesus, and in obedience to thy word. O thou Lamb of God that madest peace by the blood of thy cross, speak peace to my soul; and be thou graciously pleased to manifest thyself unto me as thou dost not unto the world.

May I return from thy table, O Lord, strengthened and refreshed for thy holy and blessed service. Didst thou die for me? O let me live to thee. Give me grace to deny myself, to take up my cross, and to follow thee. Bought with a price which angels cannot reckon, may I glorify thee both in my body and in my spirit, which are thine. Help me to crucify the flesh, with its affections and lusts. Grant me to be more meek and lowly in heart, and to be more spiritually minded, which is life and peace.

Pitifully behold the sorrows of those who are filled with groundless fears lest they should eat and drink unworthily. Comfort those whom Satan would drive to despair; and give rest to all who are weary and heavy laden with sin. Convince of their guilt and misery

those who will not come to the feast which thou hast prepared; and have mercy upon those who may presume to come without that preparation of heart which is from thee. Shew them their danger, whether they are madly living in sin, or vainly trusting in their own righteousness.

But, leaving the souls of others to thy righteous judgment, O thou Divine Saviour, who knowest what is in man, help me to judge, and try, and examine myself, whether I be in the faith. And when the tares shall no longer grow together with the wheat, then may thy holy angels gather me with all thy redeemed into thy kingdom, to rejoice in thy love, and to praise thy Name, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

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*For Friends and Relatives.*

WE commend to thy fatherly care our beloved friends and relatives. Grant them whatever may be good for them in this present life, and afterwards receive them to everlasting glory through Jesus Christ our Lord.

OR,

MAY thy blessing rest on our friends, relatives, and acquaintance. Make us all partakers of thy salvation; and whatever separation thy good providence may make upon earth, O grant that we and they may meet with joy at thy right hand in the day of judgment.

*Or with the same commencement.*

ENABLE us all to live in love and peace together, discharging every duty as in thy sight, and looking for thy mercy through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; and may we all at length rejoice together in the great day of his appearing.

OTR FATHER, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation ; But deliver us from evil : For thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, For ever and ever. *Amen.*

THE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. *Amen.*

THE LORD bless us, and keep us ; the Lord make his face to shine upon us, and be gracious unto us : the Lord lift up his countenance upon us, and give us peace, now and evermore. *Amen.*

THE peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep our hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord : and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst us, and remain with us always. *Amen.*

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*Grace before Meals.*

BLESS, O Lord, these thy creatures to our use,  
and by them fit us for thy service, through  
Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

OR,

BLESS us, O Lord, in what we are going to  
receive, and make us truly thankful : for Jesus  
Christ's sake. *Amen.*

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*Grace after Meals.*

FOR this and all his goodness, God's holy  
name be praised, through Christ our Lord.  
*Amen.*

OR,

GRACIOUS God, may the food which we have  
received strengthen our bodies ; and may thy  
Holy Spirit strengthen and refresh our souls,  
for Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

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*A Prayer on entering Church.*

POUR down upon me, O Lord, and upon this  
congregation, the Spirit of grace and of sup-  
plication. May we worship thee in spirit and  
in truth ; and hear and receive thy holy word  
to the salvation of our souls : through Jesus  
Christ our Saviour. *Amen.*

*A Prayer before leaving Church.*

PARDON, O Lord, whatsoever thy pure eyes have seen amiss in me ; and grant that I may not be a forgetful hearer, but a patient doer of thy word ; that hereafter I may be glorified with thee for ever, through Jesus Christ our Saviour. *Amen.*

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*The Child's first Prayer.*

O LORD, bless me, and make me a good child. Bless my dear father and mother\* ; bless my dear brothers and sisters\* ; and keep us this day [night] from all evil ; for Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

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\* These expressions must be varied to suit different cases.

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